

Thornlea Secondary School 8075 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 4N4 Council email: thornlea.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca

Meeting Details and Participants

Date / Time	Tuesday, October 17, 2023 7:00pm to 8:30pm Virtual Meeting							
Executive	✓	Myra C. (Co-Chair)	✓	Aroon B. (Co-Chair)	✓	Mr. Burzese (Principal)		
Committee And	~	Diana L. (Secretary)	~	Sharon A. (Communication)	\checkmark	Ms. Johnson-Lee (Vice Principal) Ms. Patrick (Vice Principal)		
School	х	Jennifer F. (Treasurer)		Teacher Representative		Student Council Representatives		
Participants			x	- Mr. Ram	✓	- Chisom A. (TSAC)		
			\checkmark	- Ms. Lewin	\checkmark	- Deeba H. (TWIC)		
Members	✓	Lee Ann C.	x	Jennifer I.	✓	Mandy S.		
at Large	✓	Grace Y.	✓	Amir S.	✓	Angela Y.		
	✓	Jenn D.	✓	Eileen M.	✓	Peter D.		
	Х	Jane P.						
Attendees	√	Mr. Alkins (Guidance)	✓	Katherine S.				
	✓,	Jady Kim	\checkmark	Siga				
	\checkmark	Sal	 ✓ (Garry Hua				
	✓ [Brian						

Agenda and Minutes

#	Торіс	Lead
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Land Acknowledgement, Virtual Norms	Vice Principal: Ms. Patrick
2.	Student Reports:	Student Council Reps:
	 Thornlea Student Activity Council (TSAC) TSAC meets once a week to discuss events Thunder Rally on Monday Oct. 23, which will promote upcoming TSAC events Homecoming/semi-formal event on Nov. 16 (homecoming ticket is \$78/person) Spirit week also coming up 	Chisom A. (TSAC)
	 Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council (TWIC) TWIC is hosting a world cup soccer tournament Chemistry Club - pumpkin decorating contest at the end of October 	Deeba H. (TWIC)
3.	 Guidance Department How to Apply to University and other pathways Ontario Universities' Fair will take place this weekend (Oct. 21 and 22) – will be very crowded, so get there early (9:30am), select top 3 universities that you would like to speak to Ontario College Fair on Oct. 18 and 19 Apprenticeship Fair on Nov. 15 and 16 Student Life Expo on Nov 18 may interest students who want to take a gap year 	Head of Guidance: Mr. Alkins



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Lunch & Learn sessions for universities/colleges will be provided next • school year (may not have enough time to organize for current school year) \rightarrow representatives from universities/colleges will visit during lunch time to provide info and answer questions To make an appointment with Guidance counselor, go to Thornlea's Guidance webpage: http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/thornlea.ss/guidance/Pages/default.aspx and click the Google form link to make an appointment This year at Thornlea – about 220 Grade 12 students will be applying to universities and about 45 students will be applying to colleges For university applications, watch OUAC video and read through the slide deck available on http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/thornlea.ss/guidance/Pages/University.aspx For college applications, watch the OCAS video and read through the • slide deck available on http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/thornlea.ss/guidance/Pages/College.aspx Grade 12 students should create an account on OUAC or OCAS soon OUAC: email address used in the account should be professional, try not to use YRDSB email address which expires 4 weeks after graduation Equal Consideration deadline will be: Jan 15 for Ontario universities, Feb 1 for McGill, Feb 1 for Ontario colleges Do not wait until the deadline to apply \rightarrow apply early to show the • university/college you are interested and also to start receiving info or supplementary application forms from the schools OUInfo https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/ - this website is great for researching about the different programs; use the upper end of the admission averages provided on the website as guideline Most accessible average: 75% (for example, generalist BA program in • mass communication) Some programs, such as McMaster's Health Sciences program, requires • a 95% average for the application to be looked at Guidance will upload mid-term marks to OUAC and OCAS on Nov. 17 • Rolling conditional offers start in Dec and through to May 29, 2024 Jan 15 is a hard deadline for equal consideration: after Jan 15. student can still add university for \$50/school; but if it's a competitive program, student may be at the back of the line Students must respond to an offer by June 3, 2024 - \$500 to \$1000 to • reserve a spot Do Grade 11 marks matter in university applications? Is my mark from summer school or night school online courses treated the same as day school courses? It all depends on the competitiveness of the programs and what the strategic enrolment management teams of the university look for in the current application cycle In prior years, about 30% to 45% Thornlea students got into their first • choice program, about 90% Thornlea students got into their top 3 choice About five Grade 12 students will be applying to US university each year • US D1 or D2 schools \rightarrow athletic scholarships availability depends on the sports (NCAA scholarships) Any Thornlea students got into Ivy Leagues? There has been students who got offers from Columbia, UCLA



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	 List of scholarships available? On the Grade 12 Guidance Google Classroom, there is a scholarship report students can look at; students will need to do research on their own, but please ask Guidance if any questions Guidance will also make the scholarship report available to Grade 11s Feel free to contact Guidance with any questions on university or college applications 	
4.	Administration Report	
	 School updates Regular update on club events available on Thornlea's Instagram Been talking to staff and teachers to try to understand school priorities and needs Looking at the school budget right now - government has been cutting funding Technology upgrade will take a number of years Need to ensure that spending and professional development align with what the community sees as a priority that serves students the best Also getting ready for Grade 8 Open House on Nov. 21 Oct to Nov is the best time to talk to Guidance as they are not as busy 	Principal: Mr. Burzese
	 Introducing new video on school council policy YRDSB revised the school council policy #262 → please watch video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PctgZCDesnE Video survey Please complete this anonymous feedback form after watching the video. (Form will stay open for one week. Admin will collect all responses and then share with members of the school council) https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YSguh35f2x_eT4QvPMBS55k6jDSjOx wmMXvOZXaUXww/ Other updates No update from the Board regarding café food services Requests coming in for bake sales, food drive, clothing drive New club requests keep coming in, such as Math Tutoring Club 	Vice Principal: Ms. Patrick
5.	Teacher ReportNo teacher updates	Teacher Rep: Ms. Lewin
6.	 School Council Initiatives February: social event for parents – to be determined March: career night for students May: PROGrant event - may consider jointly organize with another school for cost sharing (grant was \$800/school last year) June: staff appreciation event All event details will be discussed among council members at a separate internal meeting Next Council meeting will be in-person on Monday, Nov. 20 Alternate council meetings between in-person and virtual to accommodate more parents' schedule 	Co-Chairs: Aroon B. and Myra C.



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7.	Round Table – Other Business	
	 Pre-AP program discontinued for Grades 9 and 10 – who can we contact to express our concerns? According to the superintendent and trustee, the change is final. However, there are still AP courses for Grades 11 and 12. Students are free to enroll in AP courses after Grade 10. 	Jady K.
8.	Adjournment	
	Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm	